TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 4, 1987 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 30 totaled an estimated 16.2 billion ton-miles, 4.7 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both weeks included the Memorial Day Holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 22 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 372.5 billion ton-miles, up 1.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended May 30 totaled 361,074, up 3.8 percent from the corresponding week of last year, but 11.2 percent below the preceding non-holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 1.4 percent in the East and 6.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 12 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Grain showed a gain of 7,812 cars (45.8 percent), while chemicals and allied products increased by 1,579 cars (7.0 percent). Nineteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended May 23 totaled 101,388 trailers and/or containers, 5.1 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 21 weeks of the year was 2,015,752 trailers and/or containers, up 2.9 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 5/30/87:

	Loadings in Week ended May 30, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,851	I	7,812	45.8	D	1,958	7.3
Other farm products	3,718	D	89	2.3	D	624	14.4
Metallic ores	16,775	D	2,446	12.7	D	2,610	13.5
Coal	99,356	D	1,079	1.1	D	11,790	10.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,851	I	686	5.6	D	2,906	18.4
Nonmetallic minerals	9,094	D	332	3.5	D	1,594	14.9
Grain mill products	10,005	I	708	7.6	D	1,280	11.3
Food and kindred products	9,919	I	301	3.1	D	1,073	9.8
Primary forest products	9,740	I	524	5.7	D	1,320	11.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,011	I	513	6.8	D	636	7.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,070	I	487	3.9	I	464	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	24,082	I	1,579	7.0	D	1,641	6.4
Petroleum products	4,358	D	34	0.8	D	530	10.8
Stone, clay and glass products	9,823	I	499	5.4	D	1,316	11.8
Coke	4,777	I	742	18.4	D	255	5.1
Metals and products	8,628	D	208	2.4	D	502	5.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,050	D	1,593	8.5	D	3,310	16.3
Waste and scrap materials	7,297	D	70	1.0	D	1,295	15.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,296	D	269	10.5	D	535	18.9
All other carloads	65,262	I	5,448	9.1	D	10,848	14.3
LCL traffic	111	I	21	23.3	I	9	8.8
Total Cars Loaded	361,074	I	13,200	3.8	D	45,550	11.2
Corresponding week of 1986	347,874						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (22 weeks)	8,365,372	8,261,370	I 1.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
21 Weeks ended May 23	356.4	351.8	I 1.3
Week ended May 30	16.2	15.4	I 4.7
22 Weeks cumulative	372.5	367.3	I 1.4

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